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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/077,153	02/15/2002	Amado Q. Amorao	8170-054	3534

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EXAMINER

MCCORMICK, SUSAN B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1661

DATE MAILED: 02/07/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Applicati n No.

10/077,153

Applicant(s)

AMORAO ET AL.

Examiner

Susan B. McCormick

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 February 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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Detailed Action

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because the FIG.'s do not correspond to the "BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS" and there are only five figures when six are listed in the specification.

Objection to the Disclosure

37 CFR 1.163

The following is a quotation of section (a) of 37 CFR 1.163:

(a) The specification must contain as full and complete a disclosure as possible of the plant and the characteristics thereof that distinguish the same over related known varieties, and its antecedents, and must particularly point out where and in what manner the variety of plant has been asexually reproduced. In the case of a newly found plant, the specification must particularly point out the location and character of the area where the plant was discovered.

35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

As specific to United States Plant Patent applications, the specifics of 37 CFR 1.164 (reproduced below) are controlling:

The claim shall be in formal terms to the new and distinct variety of the specified plant as described and illustrated, and may also recite the principal distinguishing characteristics. More than one claim is not permitted.

In plant applications filed under 35 U.S.C. 161, the requirements of 35 U.S.C. are limited. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 162:

No plant patent shall be declared invalid for noncompliance with section 112 of this title if the description is as complete as is reasonably possible. The claim in the specification shall be in formal terms to the plant shown and described.

The disclosure is objected to under 37 CFR 1.163 (a) and under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification presents less than a full, clear and complete botanical description of the plant and the characteristics which define same per se and which distinguish the plant from related known cultivars and antecedents.

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More specifically:

A. The disclosure is objected to under 37 CFR 1.121(e) because the Latin name of the genus and species of the plant claimed should be at the beginning of the specification and preceded by the heading set forth in 37 CFR 1.163(c) (4).

B. Applicant should refer to cultivar names within single quotation marks, as this is the convention employed by the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature.

C. On page 2, under "BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS", "FIG. 1", "FIG. 2", etc. do not correspond with the drawings represented. Also there is no drawing of "FIG. 6". Applicant should change the captions provided for the drawings, either replacing them with figure numbers (Figure 1, Figure 2, etc.) or by deleting same, as the photographic illustrations and the specification must correspond to each other in this regard. The missing drawing and the corresponding specification prevents a full and precise examination of the specification. Correction is needed.

D. Applicant should disclose the length and width of the observed leaf.

E. Applicant should disclose the length, diameter and color of the petiolule.

F. On page 5, line 7, it is unclear as to what Applicant is meaning in describing the "Density" as "open". Clarification is needed.

G. On page 5, line 8, the term "medium" is vague and insufficient in describing the vigor of the observed plant. Additional information should be imported into the specification relative to plant vigor so to provide a meaningful description. Such could include, for example, amount of growth over a specified period of time.

H. Applicant should disclose the margin and texture of the leaf.

I. On page 5, line 23, Applicant should disclose the anthocyanin color as "weak to medium" is vague and insufficient. Correction is needed.

J. On page 5, line 24, Applicant should disclose the diameter of the stolon in quantitative terms as "thick" is vague and insufficient in this regard. Correction is needed.

K. Applicant should disclose the length, width and color of the sepals.

L. Applicant should disclose the reproductive organs (amount, color, sizes) in the interest of providing as complete a botanical description of the observed plant as is reasonably possible.

M. Applicant should disclose information regarding the achenes i.e. average amount and size.

N. On page 6, line 10, it is unclear as to what Applicant is meaning in the recitation "Evenness of color uneven". Clarification is needed.

The above listing may not be complete. Applicant should carefully review the disclosure and import into same any corrected or additional information which would aid in botanically identifying and/or distinguishing the cultivar for which United States Plant Patent protection is sought.

Claim Rejection

35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st and 2nd Paragraphs

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first and second paragraphs as not being supported by a clear and complete botanical description of the plant for reasons set forth in the Objection to the Disclosure Section above and objection to the drawings.

Future Correspondence


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Susan B. McCormick whose telephone number is (703) 305-1682. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 6:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Bruce Campell, can be reached on (703) 308-4205. The fax number for the group is (703) 305-3014 or 308-4242.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Matrix Customer Service Center whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

sbm


BRUCE R. CAMPPELL, PH.D
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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